

ARLINGTON TREE COMMITTEE

Monthly Meeting – September 14, 7:30PM, Selectmen's Hearing Rm, Town Hall

Attendees: Eliza Burden, John Ellis, Mary Ellen Aronow, Susan Stamps, Becky Edmonson, Eric Ammondson, Tim Lecuivre (Tree Warden), Mara Vatz (visitor).

1. Approve July, August meeting minutes (no action taken)

2. DPW Tree Department Update

General update (Tim): DPW has had assistance in pruning from the Cambridge Tree Department. Tim has overseen this work as well as pruning work by the Eversource private contractor. Tim is satisfied with their efforts. Mike is working to increase watering capacity.

Tree planting: Tim will forward list of Spring 2016 plantings. Tim has ordered 100 trees for fall planting and has 81 addresses ready to receive trees.

Off-berm planting: Tim reported this policy is still being developed.

DPW outreach: Tim requested additional copies of tree bag notices and before and after door hangers regarding tree planting. John will provide.

Scannell Field planting: Tim presented a site planting diagram and species list of 13 balled and burlap trees. These have been ordered for Fall planting.

Park Circle planting: Tim has ordered 3 balled and burlap trees for fall planting.

Appleton and Florence: Tim has ordered 1 balled and burlap tree for this location.

Summer and Forest: Tim has ordered 2 balled and burlap trees for this location.

Maple tree at Visitor Center: Tim gave an overview of the efforts he has undertaken to save this tree which appears to have died due to the contractor cutting the roots. He will evaluate the tree again in the spring.

Mass Ave. East. Arlington corridor plantings: DOT has agreed to replace 31 dead trees; Tim has flagged 11 additional trees that will likely die. DOT is unwilling to require replanting of all improperly planted trees as they were accepted by the Town. The resolution of these issues are still being negotiated.

Dead tree at Menotomy Rocks: Tim reviewed and agreed the tree should be removed. The removal has to be approved by Parks & Rec and ConCom.

ADA compliance: Tim reported the Town Engineer is addressing issues of sidewalk ADA compliance where possible without removing trees.

3. Tree Inventory – (John E.)

John noted the Open Tree Maps subscription is ending next month. It was suggested the ATC request an additional month be funded by DPW. Tim is reaching out to the Stockbridge School and Minuteman Tech for volunteer inventory assistance. Additional volunteer efforts are being sought with signup dates to be offered at Town Day.

4. Town Day (September 17)

Town Day booth signup list was distributed. Tim will be present for a good part of the day and will provide information regarding tree pests. The Open tree Map display will also be available as well as five tree inventory volunteer sign up days (9/19(EB), 21 (JE), 24 (MV), 25 (MEA) 26 (EB)).

5. Publicity/Outreach

FB/Website/Email: No discussion.

Google Groups: No discussion.

6. Membership, Committee Roles, Responsibilities and Tenure

Through unanimous vote, Mara Vatz's request to join the ATC was approved to be recommended to the Board of Selectmen. An ATC T-shirt was conveyed.

7. New Business:

Arlington Center plan review: the final public review meeting for the conceptual plans will be held 9/22 at 7:00 at Town Hall. All ATC members are encouraged to attend. Tim will attend.

DCR Grant Application: John is coordinating the efforts and completing the application on behalf of the Town. The grant amount sought is \$30,000 of which 50% must be provided by the Town. Eliza and Eric are helping with Sections 1 and 5. Mike will provide background information for Sections 4 and 5. Becky agreed to edit the final version of the application which is due in November.

Tree removal for Solar Panels: Becky provided a letter to the editor from Amherst regarding tree removal for solar panels. No action was taken.

8. Correspondence received: (none was discussed)

Next meeting: Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Next meeting, October 12, 7:30 pm.